

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed December 29, 2006. Claims 1-39 were pending in this Application. Claims 5, 18, and 31 have been cancelled without prejudice, claims 1, 2, 10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 27, 28, 36, and 37 have been amended, and no new claims have been added. Thus, Claims 1-4, 6-17, 19-30, and 32-39 are currently pending in this Application.

I. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 (Claims 1-9, 12-22, 25-35, and 38-39)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-9, 12-22, 25-35, and 38-39 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Capossela et al. (U.S. Patent no. 5,897,642 hereafter "Capossela") in view of Almond et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,024 hereafter "Almond"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 5, 18, and 31 have been cancelled without prejudice. Numerous amendments to the claims have been made merely for clarification purposes and to correct the inconsistency of term usage that occasionally appear throughout the claims. In addition, claims 1, 14, and 27 were amended to include the requirement of "receiving a description of changes intended to be made by the requesting user." Support for this additional claim limitation may be found in the specification as filed on page 15 at lines 17-20 and a similar claim limitation is found in original claims 5, 18, and 31 which are now cancelled.

In rejecting claims 5, 18, and 31, which contain a similar limitation to the newly added requirement in claims 1, 14, and 27 of "receiving a description of changes intended to be made by the requesting user," the Examiner states that "Capossella teaches prompting the requesting user to provide information about what is intended to be changed in the software component (col. 1 lines 29-34; using one of the features of Visual Source Safe which is comparing files difference let the users to know what is to be changed in the software component)." (Office Action dated December 29, 2006, p.4, item no. 8). However, Capossella col. 1, lines 25-34 reads as follows:

To help manage the control of file versions, computer based version control systems such as Microsoft® Corporation's Visual SourceSafe have been developed. In general, version control systems manage groups of files, particularly text files. For example, among other features, the Visual Sourcesafe product tracks versions of files, allowing the developer to see which files are checked out, view a history of changes, visually compare differences, add files, check out the latest version of a file or revert and use an earlier version, even one which had been deleted.

Notably missing from this list of features is the ability to request or receive "a description of changes intended to be made by the requesting user." Thus, for example, with a system as described by Capossella, when a software component is checked out and edited by a user, other members of a team of programmers cannot determine what changes the current user intends to make on the software component. The other members are merely able to

compare what was done with previous versions after the software component has been checked in. Therefore, if the requesting user is performing a change on the software component that has been determined to be undesirable for one reason or another, the other members of the team will be unable to determine that that change is being made until after the fact, thereby wasting many hours of the requesting users time in performing an undesired change and requiring the spending of additional resources and time in changing the software component back to its previous state.

Therefore, a mechanism according to any of claims 1, 14, and 27 of the present application improve efficiencies over the prior art and, specifically, over Capossela and Almond, by providing a mechanism to inhibit or prevent undesirable changes to a software component before significant outlays of time and resources have been made.

Neither Capossela nor Almond, individually or in combination, appear to even recognize this deficiency in inhibiting the time and resources spent proceeding down an incorrect path, let alone provide or even remotely suggest a solution.

It is well established that all limitations of the claimed invention must be considered when determining patentability. *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1582, 32 U.S.P.Q.2d 1031, 1034 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Thus, in comparing Capossela and Almond to the claimed invention to determine obviousness, limitations of the presently claimed invention may not be ignored. The present invention in claims 1, 14, and 27 as presently amended recite "receiving a

description of changes intended to be made by the requesting user" which as has been shown above is missing from the prior art and is neither taught nor suggested by Capossela or Almond, either individually or in combination. Therefore, claims 1, 14, and 27 are not rendered obvious by Capossela in view of Almond.

Claims 2-4, 6-9, 12-13, 15-17, 19-22, 25-26, 28-30, 32-35, and 38-39 depend variously from one of claims 1, 14, and 27 and, therefore, contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claim as well as additional limitations. Thus, claims 2-4, 6-9, 12-13, 15-17, 19-22, 25-26, 28-30, 32-35, and 38-39 are not rendered obvious by Capossela in view of Almond for reasons similar to those provided for claims 1, 14, and 27.

It appears that other deficiencies in Capossela and Almond also exist but the foregoing is sufficient to distinguish the claims of the present application from the teachings and suggestions of Capossela and Almond.

Therefore the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-9, 12-17, 19-22, 25-30, 32-35, and 38-39, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 (Claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37)

The Examiner rejected Claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Capossela in view of Almond and in further view of Miller et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 20040088647 hereafter "Miller"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37 depend variously from claims 1, 14, and 27 and, therefore, contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claim as well as additional limitations. As indicated above, claims 1, 14, and 27 are not rendered obvious by Capossela in view of Almond. Furthermore, the additional cited reference of Miller does not supply any teachings or suggestions to overcome the short fallings of the previous two references. In particular, Miller does not teach or suggest, either individually or in combination with Capossela and Almond, "receiving a description of changes intended to be made by the requesting user." Thus claims 1, 14, and 27 are not rendered obvious by Capossela in view of Almond and further in view of Miller. Therefore, since claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37 contain all of the limitations of either claim 1, claim 14, or claim 27 plus additional limitations, claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37 are not rendered obvious by Capossela in view of Almond and further in view of Miller.

Thus the rejection of claims 10, 11, 23, 24, 36, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the Application is in condition for allowance, and Applicant earnestly seeks such allowance of Claims 1-4, 6-17, and 19-39. Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this Application, please contact Applicant's attorney at 214.999.4344. Applicant, through its attorney, stands ready to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner to review this Application if the Examiner believes that such an interview would assist in the advancement of this Application.

To the extent that any further fees are required during the pendency of this Application, including petition fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees, including, without limitation, any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 07-0153 of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and reference Attorney Docket No. 119166.1002. In the event that any additional time is needed for this filing, or any additional time in excess of that requested in a petition for an extension of time, please consider this a petition for an extension of time for any needed extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 or any other section or provision of Title 37. Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner grant any such petition and authorize the Commissioner to charge the Deposit Account referenced above. Please credit any overpayments to this same Deposit Account.

Attorney Docket No. 119166.1034
Customer No. 38851

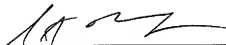
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
SERIAL NO. 10/715,061

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This is intended to be a complete response to the Office
Action mailed December 29, 2006.

**Please direct all correspondence to the practitioner listed
below at Customer No. 38851.**

Respectfully submitted,



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